

Welcome!

The refuge lies within the beautiful bluff country. Diverse habitats such as marshes, wooded islands, bottomland forests and upland prairies are home to wildlife. Paddle the canoe trail to enjoy an intimate look at this river refuge.

Paddling on the Mississippi River

If you feel comfortable, feel free to explore off-trail in the backwaters. The only restricted area is the Pool Slough No Entry Sanctuary; entry is prohibited from October 1 to the end of the state duck hunting season. Refer to the map for specific restrictions.

Safety Tips

- Wear your life jacket.
- Check weather conditions before launching. Get off the water if there is a thunderstorm.
- Tell someone where you will put in, take out, and your return time.
- During hunting season make yourself visible by wearing bright colors. Put reflective tape on your paddle or canoe.

River Currents and Wind

Backwaters can be dangerous during high water. The current can be strong around log jams, snags and low hanging branches. If the canoe gets pinned against them, the current may cause you to capsize. Anytime you begin moving too fast, paddle toward shore where there is less current.

Be aware that the bluffs can “funnel” the wind, creating more waves. Strong southern winds, especially in open-water areas, can slow your progress downstream.

Directions to Reno Bottoms Canoe Trail

The trail is located off Highway 26, just east of Reno, Minnesota. Be prepared to carry your gear from the parking lot, across the railroad tracks, down to the launch site on the south side of Lock and Dam 8 spillway. The trail is posted to the New Albin Landing.



Wildlife observation from a canoe, © Manley Dahler



- Plan Ahead and Prepare
- Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
- Dispose of Waste Properly
- Leave What You Find
- Minimize Campfire Impacts
- Respect Wildlife
- Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Pool Slough No Entry Sanctuary

No Entry from October 1 to the end of the state ducking hunting season.

The canoe trail runs adjacent to areas where waterfowl and shorebirds are resting and feeding during fall migration. These birds are wary of any human activity and are easily flushed when disturbed.

Time and distance

Section/Landing	Distance	Time
Spillway to Millstone	~ 7 miles	2-4 hours
Millstone to Visger’s	~ 3 miles	1-2 hours
Visger’s to New Albin Army Road	~ 4 miles	1-2 hours

Tips for Using Reno Bottoms Canoe Trail

There are 3 take-out points along the trail. However, from April to early June, Millstone and New Albin Army Road Landings are frequently under water. You should take out at Visger’s Landing during high water conditions.

Canoeists of all skill levels should be able to use this trail.

Spillway to Millstone Landing

Pickerel Slough merges with the canoe trail about halfway to Millstone Landing. Use the map and follow the signs to make your way through the maze of islands and marsh.

Millstone Landing to Visger’s Landing

Take out at Visger’s Landing if water conditions are high. You will be able to paddle directly to the landing from Ice Haul Slough, located about 0.5 miles south of Millstone Landing. If the river is low, you will have to go around the islands and paddle a short distance upstream to the landing.

Visger’s Landing to New Albin Army Road Landing

The trail crosses large expanses of open water. Be aware of wind conditions.



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McGregor District (Pools 9-11)
401 Business Highway 18 N
McGregor, IA 52157
563/ 873-3423

People with hearing impairments may contact the refuge through the Federal Information Relay Number at 800/ 877 8339



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1114 South Oak Street
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Entry from Friends
Photo Contest

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Upper Mississippi River
National Wildlife & Fish Refuge
Canoe Trail
Reno Bottoms (Pool 9)

Reno Walk-in

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Access points for Canoe Trail:
GPS coordinates are in NAD 83 Zone 15

- Reno Walk-in:
43° 36.202' N, 91° 16.327' W
- Millstone Landing:
43° 32.310' N, 91° 16.605' W
- Visger's Landing:
43° 31.473' N, 91° 16.802' W
- New Albin Landing:
43° 29.563' N, 91° 14.911' W

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**Reno Bottoms
Canoe Trail
10.2 Miles**

Millstone Landing

**Visger's
Landing**

New Albin

New Albin Landing



Reno Bottoms Canoe Trail
Pool 9 - Rivermiles 681 - 673

	Water
	No Entry Sanctuary
	Navigation Channel
	Stateline
	Spillway
	Roads
	Powerline
	Accessible Fishing
	Boat Landing
	Canoe Access
	Canoe Trail (10.2 Miles)



Sourcemap is posted in the field.
Supercede all boundaries shown on map.

Special Regulations

**NO ENTRY
SANCTUARY**

Closed to all migratory bird hunting.
Closed to all other hunting* and trapping from
March 15 until the day after the close of the
state duck hunting season.

No entry from October 1 to the end of the state
duck hunting season.

* Except spring wild turkey hunting.

**Pool Slough
No Entry
Sanctuary**

